

INSIDE: Zen and the art of juggling. Exploding squirrels. Got some doubts? Turn to page 2.

June 17, 1988

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The University of Nebraska at Omaha

Regent warns of 'good old boy' charges

Board approves financial consultant

By JOHN ROOD
Editor

LINCOLN — The NU Board of Regents approved an agreement with FirstTier Bank Saturday that critics said could open the university to cries of conflict of interest.

In a 5-2 vote, the board re-affirmed an earlier agreement with FirstTier Bank to provide financial consulting services and arrange financing for two upcoming projects at UNL and the Medical Center.

Regents Don Blank and Nancy Hoch voted against the resolution after offering amendments each said were intended to bring other institutions into future agreements.

Other regents said they voted in favor of FirstTier because university legal counsel said NU was free to pursue agreements with other institutions in spite of the agreements.

While other agreements can be sought, Blank and Hoch argued, they rarely are.

Blank said problems have developed because of the complexity of the transactions, which involve financing debts for large improvement projects. As the university's financial consultant, Blank said, FirstTier plans the transactions and usually ends up managing them because of time constraints.

"By the time we're told, a decision has been made," he said.

Since 1983, FirstTier has managed 19 financings of 10 different projects. No other bank has managed projects for NU during that time, according to Alan Seagren, NU vice president for administration.

"I have no qualms with FirstTier, they're an excellent institution," Blank said later in an interview, "but we're a public institution handling public dollars. This just isn't something we should be doing privately."

Blank said approving one bank to manage all NU transactions could lead to charges of "a good old boy" network and conflicts of interest, even if they do not exist.

"I think we have to be above that," he said.

Earlier Saturday, the investment firm of Daugherty, Dawkins, Strand and Yost Inc. presented a proposal to the regents asking to be considered as a future managing underwriter.

The firm also suggested NU split the underwriter and consulting positions to avoid possible conflicts of interest, stimulate competitive and creative financing and achieve improved debt placement.

W. Don Nelson, the Minneapolis-based firm's vice president and manager, said the firm offers both consulting and underwriting services, but does not provide both to one client.

See Regents on 5

Bank contributions 'routine'

Regent Don Blank said Tuesday that campaign contributions from FirstTier Bank to regents should be made public, but probably did not influence the board's decision to renew an agreement with the bank.

When contacted about the contributions by a Gateway reporter, Blank, who voted against the agreement, said such contributions are routine.

During past campaigns, Blank said he received contributions from both

FirstTier and its chairman, William Smith. He met Smith while attending UNL, he said.

"Sure, I've received them," he said.

State campaign disclosures also indicate Regents James Moylan (who voted for the agreement) and Nancy Hoch (who voted against it) received contributions during their 1982 campaigns.

See Contributions on 5

Future unsure, police classes end

By TIM KALDAHL
Senior Reporter

Professor Sam Walker said he was not upset when he was replaced during an intercultural awareness seminar for Omaha police officers last month.

The seminars came about because of alleged racial tensions within the Omaha Police Department, as well as with the black community. The seminars drew criticism from some officers as being a waste of

time and money.

Walker, a UNO criminal justice professor, agreed to conduct eight of the 16 seminars scheduled for the nearly 600 officers. George R. Garrison, chairman of the UNO black studies department, was the project's director. Walker completed five seminars before being replaced by the Rev. Negil McPherson, pastor of the Pilgrim Baptist Church.

"I wasn't too upset," Walker said. Garrison asked him at the last minute to take

part in the programs, he said.

Every officer from the deputy chief on down took part in an eight-hour session. The program cost \$27,000 and is to be paid by the Omaha Police Department — a cost of roughly \$450 per officer.

Reaction to the program varied. "It was mixed," Walker said of officers' opinions of the seminars. "We had a lot of give and take. We tend to stereotype

See Police on 4

Construction on target for belltower

Construction for the Henningson Memorial Campanile is on schedule and will be completed by the fall, according

to Tim Fitzgerald, assistant director of University Relations.

The belltower, which will stand 168 feet high, was donated to UNO by Margre Henningson Durham in honor of her parents, Henning and Rose Henningson, and her sister, Helen Henningson Grimes.

Grimes attended UNO when it was the Municipal University of Omaha, then known as "puny muny U," Durham said during the May 12 ground-breaking ceremony.

"I feel that my mother, father and sister are looking down with a great deal of pride," she said. "This is another step for ringing in the bells of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska system."

Chancellor Del Weber said the belltower represents an exciting future for UNO.

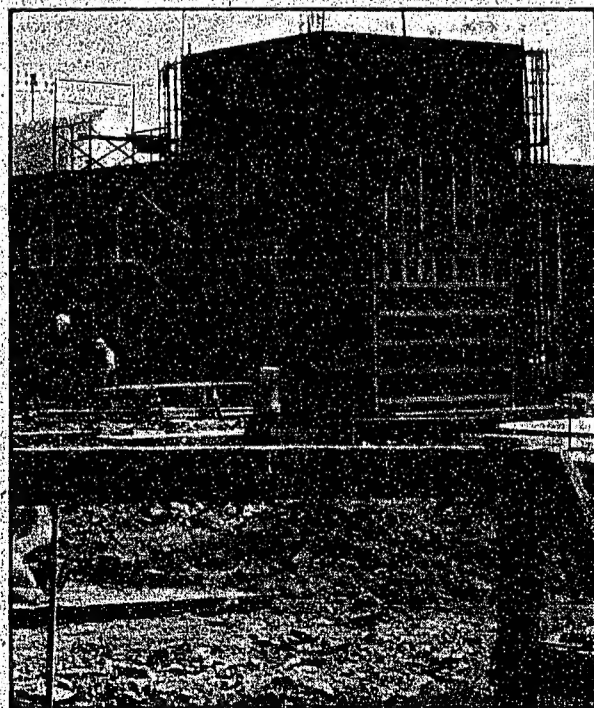
"The campanile will be in the geographic center of campus where the students and faculty of the university family will be able to appreciate it and enjoy the sound of its music," Weber said. "This will change the landscape of the campus and Omaha forever."

Design plans for the structure call for a concrete tower with brick accents which will be used to house 47 bronze bells. A plaza and walkway will be constructed around the tower. A four-sided clock will also be a part of the tower designed by Robert A. Torson Architects of Omaha.

The base of the tower has already been built and within the next week the bricks will be mounted, Fitzgerald said.

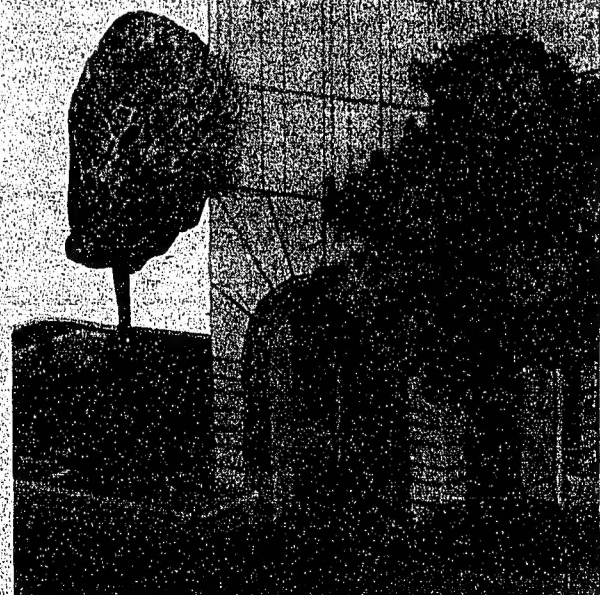
The 47 bells are currently being cast in France. "After that they'll be tuned and then shipped to UNO," he said. They should arrive here about mid-August, he added.

Once completed, music for the belltower will be provided by an electronic keyboard located in the Strauss Performing Arts Center.



—Charlotte Niemeyer

Construction on the belltower began May 12 and is scheduled to be completed for the fall semester.



The Henningson Memorial Campanile

COMMENT

Snap, crackle, pop . . .

Exploding squirrels add summer-morning sizzle

Three squirrels have committed suicide on my block since the spring semester ended. No one knows why. The little rodents didn't have the decency to leave a note, but they sure made an impression on the neighborhood.

There's an Omaha Public Power District substation just four houses down the street. When a squirrel can't bear up under the pressure of everyday life, he jumps into a transformer box and explodes. The squirrels not only kill themselves, but the electricity in a six-block area, as well.

My summer mornings go something like this:

1. A large thunderclap echoes through the neighborhood.

2. I wake up and check to see if I've melted. I live just a couple of miles from SAC headquarters. Even in the era of Glasnost, I worry about melting. When it's apparent the world is still in one piece, I feel better.

3. I lean out of my bed and look at my stopped alarm clock. It dawns on me a squirrel has blown up and my blow drier won't be working until noon.

It bums me out.

Still, summer has been fun so far. Amusements have included spending lots of money taking two girls to the symphony, seeing Mike Dukakis at a rally in an

Tim Kaldahl

Gateway Columnist

armory, seeing Jesse Jackson at a rally on the Central Park Mall, judging a battle of the punk bands here at UNO and going to a sleazy adult bookstore in Council Bluffs. Do I know how to live?

Jesse made the best speech Omaha has ever heard. He's a master of style over substance. Not many can remember him

saying anything really solid, but he left the hundreds of people on the mall hopping up and down and applauding.

Jackson is a "somebody." He makes a huge impression when he speaks. Afterwards, I thought about the possibility of him being the vice president. Remember this: Someone said once that "the vice presidency isn't worth a pitcher full of warm spit." They never heard of Jesse Jackson.

The only memorable thing about the Dukakis gig was the loud, Greek men hopping up and down. Dukakis was a yawn. Thank God the primaries are over.

Dukakis is obviously a bright man. So was Fritz Mondale four years ago. Still, he is running against a non-personality. George Bush has the personality of warm spit. Besides, George didn't even stop in town.

After being bored at Dukakis, a few of us decided Omaha was more than a little

tame. For excitement, a Council Bluffs adult bookstore that looked like an old Pizza Hut seemed to be an answer. It was a first (and last) for me. They cater to some wild fetishes.

The hardcore porno magazines weren't a problem. The gay and lesbian porno magazines weren't a problem. The pregnant porno magazines were a BIG PROBLEM.

It took a while to wash off the slime. All the stereotypes of dirty old men are very much true.

The Battle of the Bands was amusing. Watching a couple hundred moody, thin, pale white kids dressed in black prance around for an evening broke up a dull Friday. The vodka the judges were passing around helped some, too.

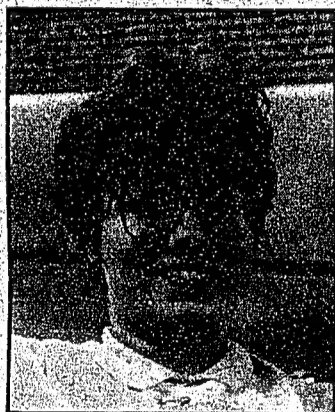
But hey, summer is just starting. Life and times are good. The belltower keeps going up, the sun's warm and the Gateway's back.

Why isn't it like this all the time? Somebody has to tell the squirrels to lighten up.

VIEWFINDER

Q: "How effective is the advising process at UNO?"

Opinions solicited by Liz Welling



Jan Nipper, senior speech pathology

"For me, it's been very effective. I have a guidance counselor now who is knowledgeable on what courses I need."



Machel Borchers, sophomore civil engineering

"Basically, I decide myself, and he signs it."



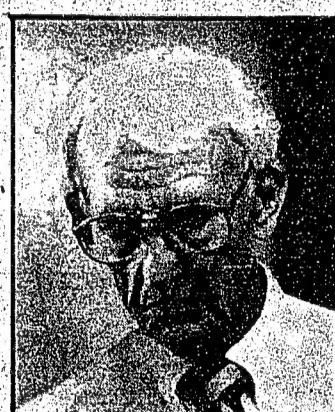
Joel Buelte, graduate studies business administration

"Fairly effective. My advisor is pretty good for me."



Russell Rosenquist, graduate

"Overall, it's more effective for graduate students to talk with other graduate students than their advisors."



David Paulsen, Professor Public Administration

"Reasonably effective. Mine is a peculiar situation. Since most students are employed full-time, most of my advising is done over the phone rather than in meetings."

Try it: Zen and the art of juggling

Since it's a new semester, I thought it would be appropriate to try to get you motivated and teach you a new skill that's great fun at parties.

Before you say to yourself, "Who does this guy think he is, to think he could get us motivated," I'll apologize by saying that writing a column takes a tremendous amount of ego. Think about it: you have to be able to say to yourself, "What I'm writing is of interest to everyone who picks up this newspaper." This obviously is not true and becomes apparent when you notice someone blowing his nose all over your hallowed words.

With that said, here is the philosophy, the Zen-Confucius-Hindu practice, I live my life by:

Tim McMahan

Gateway Columnist

Life is like learning to juggle.

Sure, it sounds silly on the surface, but let's look at it more closely. Juggling is the most incredibly positive thing anyone can learn to do. If you base your life on juggling, you are absolutely guaranteed of going far.

For example, it's been scientifically proven somewhere that as you learn to juggle, you only get better, not worse. Wherever you leave off trying is where you'll be when you start again.

To learn, you start off slow, just like learning anything else in life. You have to learn how to throw one ball perfectly in the air in a delicious parabola and have it land gently, precisely in the other hand without reaching out

to grab it.

Once you get that down to a science (which could take 10 minutes or 10 hours, depending on how coordinated you are and who's watching), pick up a second ball and try to make one rotation by throwing one ball to the other hand, and just before it lands, throwing the other ball across. At first, you won't be able to do this without just passing the second ball from hand to hand. But don't worry, after 10 minutes of practice, those happy spheres will be flying in two, even arcs and landing safely, securely in opposite hands.

At this point, you'll notice how much better you've gotten in just a few minutes. Remember: You can only get better, you can't get worse.

Finally, after you've perfected doing single rotations with two balls, it's time to make the big plunge. Now, with three balls, do as you did with two and be satisfied with being able to complete a single rotation without dropping any of the three.

The first time you do, you'll get this great feeling of accomplishment, and then there'll be no stopping you. It'll only be a matter of time 'til you let go with your mind and are able to juggle — clumsily at first — three balls.

From there, the sky's the limit because it's just like riding a bike; once you master it, you'll never forget how to do it.

Regardless, the thought to remember here is that nothing is hopeless; the world is your pearl and nobody got to the moon by saying to themselves "It can't be done."

End of speech. Next week, a look at how the writers' strike is going to affect this culture. Probably. Until then, use a Kleenex to blow your nose.

THE GATEWAY

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PRIZE WINNING
NEWSPAPER
1988

Nebraska Press Association

Glasnost, American greed pose future threats

By RICHARD NIXON
Former U.S. president

Collegiate Times — Chances are good that Mikhail Gorbachev will still be in power in the Soviet Union when today's college students reach their 40th birthdays. If his economic reforms succeed as Deng Xiao-peng's have in China, his influence could be profound enough to influence the course of history into the 22nd century.

To most college students, if domestic politics are a fairly remote phenomenon, foreign affairs are an almost hopeless abstraction. Usually our campuses have paid atten-

tion only when there was something to be against. Awareness has been equated with opposition, as in Vietnam and South Africa. Otherwise, students are content to focus on studies and other preparations for the working world.

ACCESS

In the years between now and the next century, America will fall hopelessly behind the Soviet Union if the creative power of our young people is consumed in the purely selfish pursuit of financial gain and social status. If the United States is to survive in the 21st century and fulfill its destiny as what Lincoln called the last, best hope of the earth, it will only be because the generation now in college rose to the challenge.

New thinking

If Gorbachev's "new thinking" is successful, it will be because he managed to refocus the energies of the Soviet

Union from expansion of its empire abroad to reform of its economy at home. He knows the problems he faces will require at least a generation to solve. He needs a generation of peace — or to put it more precisely, a generation without war.

While he pursues his goal, we could do two things. We could sigh with relief and turn to our own narrow interests and pleasures, taking advantage of the reduction in international tensions by reducing our role on the world stage. This is the counsel of the new negativists, who can be found not only in our great universities but also in the news media, big business and politics.

U.S. Isolationism

The platform of the new negativists is the new isolationism. Unlike the old isolationists of the 1930s, the new isolationists oppose not only American involvement abroad, but also defense programs at home.

If we go down that road, when Gorbachev's new, stronger Soviet Union stands astride the next century, the old America will be no match for it. Instead, we must anticipate the challenge of Gorbachev's new thinking by building a new America — an America new, confident of its military and economic power and also of its spiritual strength.

Renewed Expansionism

If we have only 20 years before a re-invigorated Soviet Union turns its sights to renewed expansion, we have no time to lose. We must think and act boldly. We should help those who are fighting to prevent a Communist victory, as in Angola, and those who are trying to overturn a Communist victory, as in Afghanistan and Nicaragua.

Military power is only half the equation. We must take advantage of Moscow's flagging economic strength by improving our own competitive position around the world.

We should work to improve living conditions in the Third World to undercut the political appeal of Communist slogans. We should make it clear that even if there were no Communist threat in the developing world, we would devote our efforts to reducing its pervasive poverty, disease and injustice.

At the same time, we must re-affirm our guiding values at home by finding new ways to enable all our citizens to share fully in America's success. We must solve the problems of the urban underclass, the homeless and the poor.

This agenda for America's political leaders in the next 20 years cannot be fulfilled without the support of America's leadership class — those who are now getting the best educations and who will undertake careers in the upper echelons of business, the media and government.

Undermined foreign policy

Since Vietnam, the leadership class has undermined the United States in foreign policy by questioning its motives and its principles. Its obsessive skepticism is one reason the new negativists argue we have lost both the will to lead and the faith in ourselves to enable us to lead.

To restore faith, we must look to our roots. Two centuries ago, our newly-born nation caught the imagination of the world not because of its wealth or power, for it was poor and weak, but because of its ideas. We need to restore faith in our ideals, in our destiny and in ourselves.

We should reach for the same unity in peacetime. The total effort required to fight a war must be mobilized to build a better peace. The next generation of America's best-educated young people is the indispensable element in this effort.

Editor's Note: Nixon's comments were distributed by the Collegiate Network.

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- private offices.
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Smoking IS NOT permitted in . . .

- "open" offices without the mutual consent of all occupants.
- restrooms, hallways/corridors, meeting/conference rooms (except the Tower Room) or elevators.
- the Maverick Room.

Milo Bail Student Center — A Unit of Educational Student Services



Senate covers agencies' debts

By LORI SAFRANEK
Staff Reporter

Financial problems which have beset two student agencies were the focus of attention during the May 6 Student Senate meeting.

Senators were briefed by Executive Treasurer Cheryl Carter that United Minority Students (UMS) suffered a deficit of approximately \$138 in Audio Visual services, while the Women's Resource Center (WRC) was more than \$620 in the red for contractual services.

Carter said UMS Director Bill Herndon and WRC Director Carmen Turner transferred the necessary funds from other parts of their agencies' budgets to cover the deficits. However, UMS has been blocked from using Audio Visual services until June 30, the end of fiscal year 1987-88, she said. Neither Herndon nor Turner attended the meeting.

Carter said both budgets should finish the fiscal year without an overall deficit because of the line-item transfers. However, Student President/Regent Joe Kerrigan disagreed with the directors' actions. "I think we do too much of this line transferring," Kerrigan said.

WRC was allocated \$500 for contractual services; however, more than \$1,000 has already been used, Carter said.

Turner has been consulted about the proper procedures regarding a budget, Carter said.

"I re-explained to her that contractual services can only

be used with prior permission," she said. Turner was unable to be reached for comment.

UMS' financial problems were attributed to the absence of a full-time director, Carter said.

Herndon said people running the office were unable to pay some of the bills because "they didn't know who to pay for this or that."

However, the budget problems have been resolved, and the office will restrict itself to the guidelines of budget allocations, he said.

"We have to watch ourselves and tightly follow the budget," he said. "We would like to have more money, but we have to work with what we have."

Another problem area for UMS was an agreement made for a cultural group to perform last semester. The group, Zulu Spears, threatened to sue the university for \$500 if it was not paid, Carter said.

Student Government covered the expenses for the group with the understanding that UMS will reimburse it if the agency has the money left over in its budget at the end of the fiscal year, Carter said.

In other action, the senate:

- Appropriated \$704 for two Gateway staff members to attend a journalism conference during August in Washington, D.C. The money will augment \$400 the staff members have personally spent for the conference, said John Rood, Gateway editor.

- Appropriated \$349 to the Muslim Student Association for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in bringing a speaker to campus for a program on Palestine and the West Bank.



— Tim Trudell

Send in the clowns

"Rainbow" the clown directs parking at the Student Center during Senior Celebration Day May 27. Approximately 400 senior citizens attended the fourth annual event.

Police from page 1

police officers. There's a range of differences."

"Training is over, and it was successful," Garrison said. The seminars began April 27 and ended June 3. "I don't want to continue discussing this through the media."

"I've recommended that this continue," he said. There are no future plans for seminars, Garrison said.

Police Chief Robert Wadman had no comment about the seminars. Wadman was the only police officer to not participate in the program.

Garrison, Walker (later replaced by McPherson), G. Herbert Grandbois and Patrick McKee-Velasquez were the instructors for the program. Grandbois is a UNO associate professor of social work. McKee-Velasquez is the executive director of the Chicano Awareness Center. The seminars covered Afro-American, Native American and Chicano history and culture.

Walker and McPherson dealt with police community relations. The instructors spoke to 35 officers at a time.

Garrison said the seminars were a step in the right direction for the police.

"I think the racial tensions in the city need to be resolved," he said. The seminars were the idea of late Mayor Bernie Simon and black community groups.

Garrison said he applauds Simon for his concern with the community.

"The problems I see are no different from other parts of the country," he said. It's too early in the Calinger administration to see what kind of dealings the mayor's office will have with minorities, he said.

The Omaha Police Department has been hurt internally in recent years, Walker said. "I think it's been damaged by all the po-

litical turmoil," he said. The incidents date back to former Mayor Mike Boyle's firing of Wadman and the later lawsuit that brought the chief back. There has been an erosion in day to day supervision, he said. He did say that Omaha still has an above average police force, however.

"Omaha was pretty good at being free of politics (in the department)," he said. In talking with the officers, Walker said that complaints, especially from sergeants, were about men using resources for too many special programs and projects. "It (the department) really needs some peace and quiet."

Campus Recreation invites you...

As a big "thank you" to the UNO community, the Campus Recreation staff is hosting a party Saturday, June 25 in gratitude of the support and participation the UNO community has shown. A professional storyteller will be on hand for entertainment, plus refreshments and party favors for everyone. Come and let our story have a happy ending! The party will be held in the Pep Bowl (south side of the Administration Building) from 1-3 p.m. Families are welcome. Please call 554-2539 for reservations.

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FUND A REFUNDS

Fund A refunds forms for the first summer session semester will be available in the administrative offices of the Milo Bail Student Center during the week of

June 20-24

Faculty given option

Regents approve new Med Center career plan

By MICHELLE FLYR
Contributing Writer

Medical Center faculty members are now able to choose from more than one career path, according to a new program adopted by the Board of Regents.

The Health Professional Appointment Program will allow new faculty members to receive renewable contracts of up to five years, said Medical Center Chancellor Charles Andrews. The program does not, however, eliminate tenure; a faculty member may apply for tenure at anytime. What the new program does provide is more flexibility for Medical Center faculty in reaching their tenure goals, he said.

Under the current tenure program, faculty members are given specific term appointments. After five-and-a-half years,

they are reviewed for tenure. If tenure has not been granted by the end of the sixth year, faculty members' contracts are terminated, Andrews said. Because many faculty members have clinical obligations, it is sometimes difficult for them to meet the research requirements necessary for tenure appointments, he said.

Andrews said support ran 5-1 at the May 6 regents meeting in favor of the new tenure program. The faculty also seemed to support the new program, according to Robert Binhammer, president of the Medical Center Faculty Senate.

For the medical field, "getting established means gaining national recognition," Binhammer said. Five years is not long enough to do this in, he said. There is no time limit on accepting tenure under the new program.

Many faculty members are involved in

service activities, which leave little time for establishing national recognition, Binhammer said. Even if faculty members performed well at service work, they would be let go if tenure was not granted, he added.

Though the program only affects the Medical Center, UNO faculty members are concerned about its possible use here, said UNO Faculty Senate President Eric Manley.

The main goal of tenure is to protect academic freedom, Manley said. This freedom allows faculty members to introduce unpopular views and conduct controversial research, he said.

However, UNO is not likely to change its

tenure plan. "Any attempt to change would be met with stiff resistance," he said.

Binhammer said he hopes the new plan will help attract clinical faculty to the Medical Center. Many people who simply want to do service work need not worry about receiving tenure under the new plan, he said.

Since tenure is uncertain, attracting research scientists could be a problem, Binhammer said. But the new plan is flexible enough so that faculty members can receive a definite tenure time in writing, he added.

Regents from page 1

Contributions from page 1

Moylan received \$350 from FirstTier (then Omaha National Bank) Nov. 11, 1982, while Hoch received \$500 from Omaha National Nov. 27, 1982.

Blank said the contributions are not out of the ordinary because other banks routinely make them.

"I suppose someone could look at it and say, 'yes, there is a problem.' The public should know (about the contributions) if for no other reason than that," he said.

"It behooves us all to open up the process," he added. "Everybody will feel more comfortable that way."

FirstTier Vice President Jim Van Horn said his bank operates a political action committee (PAC) that "routinely makes grants" to politicians.

"FirstTier is very active in building good government in Nebraska. Many

times we'll donate to both candidates for a political office. It is our way of supporting the political process," he said.

"We do not feel our contributions create a conflict of interest. There's absolutely no tie," Van Horn added.

While other institutions may not donate cash, they may donate in kind services such as office space and phone usage, he said.

W. Don Nelson, vice president for Daugherty Dawkins, a firm also seeking NU's financial business, said his firm does make some national political contributions, but not to Nebraska candidates because of a possible conflict of interest.

"I think it's risky to do something people can point a finger at," Nelson said.

"We will do one or the other, but not both. We never put ourselves in that position," he said.

In a separate interview, Jim Van Horn, FirstTier vice president of public finance, defended his bank's position.

"We feel as though we can fill both positions without a conflict of interest," Van Horn said.

Many other public entities, such as the city of Omaha, generally use the same consultant and managing underwriter, he said.

Nelson said that although FirstTier's agreement was renewed, all was not lost. "At least it's a step in the right direction. They're aware of our concerns," he said.

Daugherty Dawkins does not plan to take any legal action in the situation, Nelson said.

"The board is the Supreme Court as far as we're concerned. We still hope to work with them. It would be counter-productive to pursue it further," he said.

Van Horn said that if the regents later decide to separate the two functions, FirstTier would continue to seek NU's business.

"We would submit a proposal... with very favorable interest rates. We want to do what's in the best interest of the university," he said.

In other business, the regents:

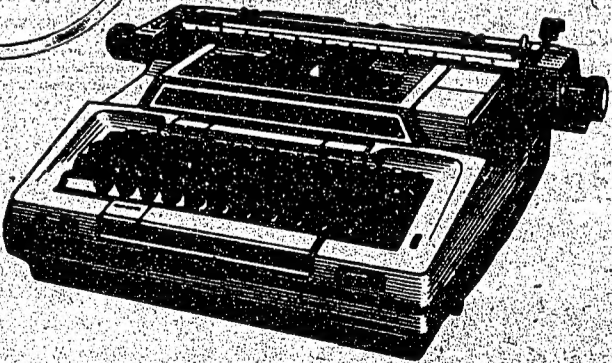
● Approved a \$635 million budget for fiscal year 1988-89 — an 11.8 percent increase from this year. The budget increases UNO undergraduate tuition from \$42.75 per credit hour to \$48.50 for state residents. Non-resident undergraduate tuition increased to \$131.75 from \$121.50.

Graduate tuition for Nebraska residents increased \$5 a credit, from \$59.50 to \$64.50. Non-residents will pay \$12.25 more a credit hour, from \$144.50 to \$156.75.

● Approved a salary increase for NU President Ronald Roskens of 12.6 percent, from \$99,500 to \$112,000. By comparison, chancellor of the three NU campuses received 10 percent increases: UNMC Chancellor Charles Andrews went from \$112,350 to \$123,600; UNL Chancellor Martin Massengale, from \$94,530 to \$104,000; and UNO Chancellor Del Weber, from \$84,100 to \$92,550.

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ARTS & ENT

The Midwest Music Scene

Monster Rock's attempt in breaking the sound barrier

By STEVE CHASE
Feature Editor

The Midwest isn't usually thought of as the music center of the United States, but the bands that played at "Monster Rock" May 27 are trying to change this situation.

But not without a few problems. Many of the groups have found that breaking the barrier between independent artists and those contracted on major labels can be difficult.

John C. Wolfe, lead singer and guitarist for the Omaha band Cellophane Ceiling and promoter for Main Vein Productions which sponsored the show at Sokol Hall, said shows like this are needed to help these musicians.

"I think there are some decent bands in Omaha and Iowa that need to be heard," Wolfe said. "We exposed people to bands that they usually wouldn't see."

The purpose of this show was to promote *Out the Window*, the first album by the Omaha-based band Apathy. As this band recently found out, just getting a recording finished can pose a problem.

"The album was supposed to have come out last year," said Mike Homan, a UNO senior in psychology as well as bass player for Apathy. "It seems like it took forever to finish."

"We're real picky," said Jim Homan, the band's lead guitarist. "We wanted it to sound as good as possible."

So far, the band members said their album has done well in local sales; they hope to distribute it nationwide. But Apathy (along with several of the other bands at the show) feel Omaha is not one of the best places to start a band.

"Omaha tends to be so bar oriented," Mike Homan said. "They're not very supportive of their music scene."

Dave Delbier, lead vocalist and guitarist



Apathy (from left): lead vocalist Seth Deth, guitarist Jim Homan and his brother Mike on bass guitar

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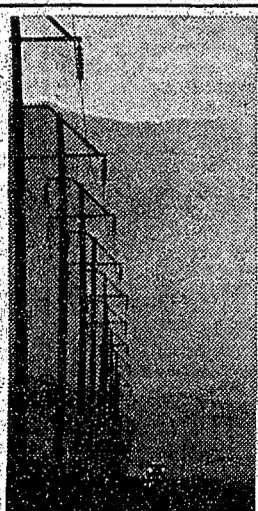
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— Steve Chase

at the Monster Rock show May 27 at Sokol Hall.

"It's getting hectic working full time, going to school and being in the band," Horman said. "We plan to tour this summer and try to get signed to a different label, but that's a bit of a problem. I'm still in school, and the others work most of the time."

See Barbands on 8

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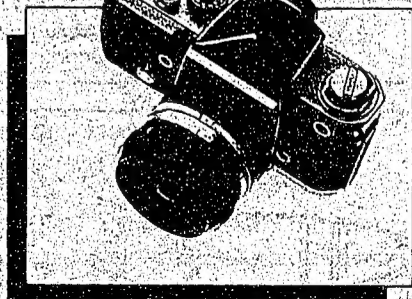
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Barbands from page 7

see his fingers fly up and down the fretboard of his guitar. At the Ranch Bowl, no one was disappointed. Sometimes it was just straight rock and roll, blues or jazz guitar. At other times, it was guitar with special effects, such as a wah-wah pedal.

For most of his career, Trower has had to bear the brunt of inevitable comparisons (often unfavorable) to the original guitar hero Jimi Hendrix. His lasting success seems to indicate that enough people appreciate him for what he is — a very unique guitarist who puts on a good show.

In stark contrast to Trower's show was the Omaha debut of the BoDeans from Waukesha, Wis. To begin with, they are a much newer band. They've got just two albums to their credit ("Love, Hope, Sex and Dreams" and "Outside Looking In"). They are also a more vocal-oriented band. But despite these surface differences, one aspect of their performance was strikingly similar to Trower's: the energy involved, on the part of both the band and the audience.

The Ranch Bowl show was an all-ages affair presented in the middle of the bowling alley. This was a first for me. The security personnel had their hands full keeping fans off the lanes and out of the gutter. They did, however, allow people to mount the ball-return racks to get a bird's-eye view of the band. In order to reduce congestion at the main bars (the place was absolutely packed), several satellite beer stands were strategically scattered around the premises.

The BoDeans are on the verge of really making it big. We'll be lucky to have the opportunity to see them again in as intimate a setting as the Ranch Bowl. People who were at the show should appreciate the fact.

'Big,' 'Funny Farm' live up to their titles

I didn't really expect to enjoy Tom Hanks' new film, "Big." With such a surfeit of films recently on the subject of age switches, I wondered how a film might approach this subject from a fresh angle. I was quite enchanted.

In this particular age-change tale, 13-year-old Joshua Baskin (Tom Hanks) suffers unrequited love for a school mate; eyeing her at a local carnival one night, Josh attempts to undertake a most perilous ride with her. Two events, however, intervene: The first is the fact of her escort, a tall young man who fulfills a critical requirement that Josh cannot yet — driving — and second, as Joshua approaches the entrance, he is barred because of insuf-

ficient height.

Despairing, he turns to a nearby booth featuring "Zoltar," a mechanical wizard capable of fulfilling wishes. After inserting the necessary quarter, Joshua asks to be "big," and so the story gets underway.

Unable to convince his mother of his true identity after his transformation, he turns to Manhattan for survival until he can find the mysterious "Zoltar" machine and transform back to himself. The remainder of the film chronicles his adventures as a 13-year-old in a 30-year-old's body in contemporary Manhattan, including finding work with a toy company and his friendship with his co-worker Susan (Elizabeth Perkins).

"Big" displays its charm in several different spheres. First, its cleverly-written script offers numerous contrasts between today's adult pop-psychological jargon and Joshua's delightful, child-like innocence.

Tom Hanks' performance as a 13-year-old in a 30-ish-year-old person's body deserves praise. His charm and guilelessness shine through as we come to appreciate the personality traits that Susan, for example, finds so appealing.

The presentation of young adolescent life and its contrast with contemporary adult life in corporate Manhattan make for an enjoyable and even contemplative film experience.

Chevy Chase's new film "Funny Farm" also came as an unexpected surprise. I often don't care for slapstick



— Brian Hamill/ Twentieth Century Fox

Tom Hanks portrays a 12-year-old boy in a 35-

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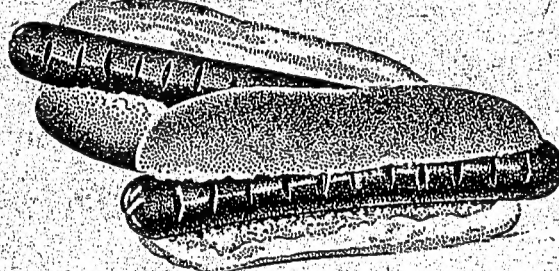


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humor, the sense one received from its previews. However, this film contains wit and perspicaciousness, with not a few biting comments to offer about the state of rural New England.

The film opens as Andy Farmer (Chevy Chase), highly successful New York City sportswriter, leaves his career behind to move to rustic Vermont with his beautiful wife Elizabeth to write his novel.

After suffering one pitfall after another, we find Andy drifting in a sea of alcohol, Elizabeth having successfully published a children's book with another on the way during their time in Vermont. When a despicable action on Andy's part prompts Elizabeth's divorce action, they prepare to sell their home, and in doing so, the film's humor comes to its most humorous climax.

What makes this picture so humorous is in part its biting and sarcastic look at life in contemporary rural New England, even attempting at one point to undermine the myth of a "Normal Rockwell" slice of Americana. As Andy himself comments near the film's climax, he is best at being a fake. And that is — the film would suggest — a large portion of what life is about in this small community.

"Funny Farm" is a far better film than its television ads would suggest. Indeed, the very audience who might most enjoy this caustic comedy would likely be turned away by the inane advertising, which misrepresents this sharply funny film.

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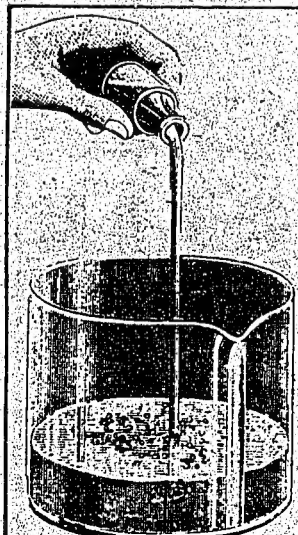
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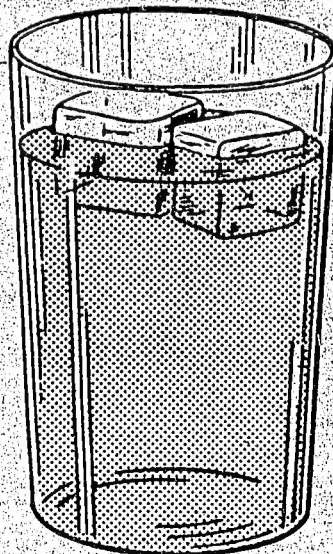


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Columnist reveals infatuation with men and red ties

Me and men and red ties.

In his novel *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, Milan Kundera writes that human lives "are composed like music. Guided by his sense of beauty, an individual transforms a fortuitous occurrence into a motif, which then

Judith Bieker

State of the Arts

assumes a permanent place in the composition of the individual's life."

In the Beethoven seventh symphony of my life, me and men and red ties are the scherzo and trio. This triple motif, like the famous composer's notebook of musical themes,

has a significant place in my history.

Rooted in an agrarian upbringing where men owned only one suit for church-going purposes (my father included) and one color-keyed, matching tie, this might not have developed into a significant theme at all had I not met David James, a man who not only owns a wardrobe of suits, but who can select great ties to go with them.

On my first date with DJ, I expressed an aesthetic appreciation for his tie, a candy-cane red number with a striking swath of blue, white and gold pin stripes. He rewarded my attentions by taking me along on his next suit-buying expedition. I would have preferred dinner and a wild romance, but this was a man capable of being intimate only with his haberdashery. We are still good friends, however.

Not long afterward I met Aaron, an MBA candidate and connoisseur of all clothing bright and beautiful. I sewed three shirts for him as a birthday gift one year, a *tallith* (prayer shawl) of fine Polish linen for Hanukkah, and a beautiful red tie (Oscar de la Renta vintage). The shirts have traveled as far as the north of France and the *tallith* is in fairly regular use, but the tie has appeared at numerous interviews and dinners and most recently was introduced to the governor of our state. All gifts should be so esteemed.

I have also purchased a red tie (maroon foulard) for my older brother. It is the only gift I've ever selected for him that he has kept and uses regularly: Sundays, for church. My brother still lives in the town where we grew up, and the conditions for wearing suits haven't changed. At least I know now that he's dressed better than everyone else.

The men-and-red-ties theme finishes like the symmetrical structure of this macabre dance movement: With yet another David, one who owns good suits but who, until I came along, had crummy ties.

Not long after David and I met, he had an interview for a position he very much wanted.

"What are you going to wear for this?" I asked. We produced a traditional, two-piece navy blue corporate uniform from his closet.

"And the tie?" I queried. He showed me a 1950s period *cravat*, dull blue with bright blue stripes.

Now, here is a delicate situation. How do you tell a man you've known for three weeks and hope to know many more that his tie sucks?

I elected an academic approach.

"You know," I began, "in many situations this tie would be a perfect choice." (Perfect for a garage sale, I wanted to say. Perfect for tying the car trunk lid when you're hauling a lawn mower from your mother's house, perfect for the annual nerd prom.)

"I think you need to make a powerful statement in this interview, though, and a good red tie will significantly enhance your image of credibility and success."

I don't read John Malloy's column just for kicks.

Luckily, I was house sitting at the time for a young urban professional who kept an arsenal of killer ties. We found one suitable for the occasion (medium red with a small blue and yellow pattern), and David had his interview.

A few days later I purchased a fine red tie for my beau. When I dropped in at his apartment with this testament of my undying love, David was on his way out the door. He took a few minutes to accept this offering with much verbal gratitude but apologizing that he could not invite me in.

"I have to meet with Barb," he said. That's the woman who broke off their wedding engagement a month before I and my great ties came into the picture. "We have some unfinished business to clean up, but I'll call you later. Will that be alright?"

"Sure," I said. I was lying.

And he didn't call.

At 1 p.m., when I drove over to his apartment building, he and Barb were in the parking lot, in the front seat of her car, in a tangled embrace.

"How @\$\$%\$#ing long does it take you to say good-bye?" I screamed, and there ensued a scene with all the dynamics of the Beethoven fifth.

The coda takes us immediately to the home of my good friends Gary and Tammy who, owing to the fact that they are Nazarene pastor and wife, have a great gift for being available and sympathetic at 11:30 p.m. (They would be extraordinary people even if they weren't church-going folk, but you don't feel nearly as guilty dragging your pastor out of bed for a late-night crisis. You should, but you don't.) I poured out my woeful tale.

"So, where's the tie," Gary asked.

"He still has it." He could have strung himself up with it for all I cared.

"You mean to tell me you got me out of bed at this hour, that I listened to this whole thing and I don't even get a decent tie out of all this?" (Gary, too, is a man with good suits and exquisite ties.) "Geeze, you'd think a guy could get something for all his trouble," he said, continuing the comic indignance.

Gary had a great way of making all of us laugh through what we perceived as our worst moments. He and Tammy and I often cut up the most serious conversations with one-liners and innuendo. "You spend your whole life ministering to everyone else's needs," I asked them once, "when do you get ministered to?"

"Times like this," they replied.

That was nearly a year ago. David got the job he interviewed for, and he wears his fine red tie with some regularity. He and I, by the way, repaired our rift and are still on dating terms.

Gary and Tammy have moved on to a new pastorate in central Florida, and I miss them terribly. They read my articles with genuine interest, helped me to sort out numerous ethical dilemmas and always proved the best audience for the great scherzo of my comic life.

I am not vain enough to believe I could be the only wild, single, church-going woman writer in the great double-concerto of their lives, but I am selfish enough to wish I were irreplaceable.

So, I gave Gary a red tie and a copy of the Beethoven *Symphony in A Major* as a going-away gift.

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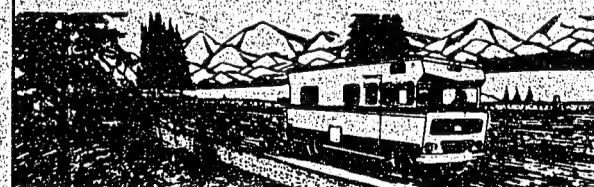
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Marrying Acorns tops critic's summer list

Hey. Let's just talk.

For starters, I'm not making a comparison, but it would seem that every person who has heard anything by the Velvet Underground has gone out and started a band. To an extent, the same holds true for R.E.M. Not that these upstarts go out and copy their childhood heroes note for note. They find their influence in these bands (although most won't admit they have influences). Put on the Jesus and Mary Chain, Joy Division, or Sonic Youth. OK, now take it off. You here the V.U. in there, don't you? If you've never heard V.U., then you're probably not in a band. R.E.M. is influential because the music sounds complex when it isn't, and there are no heroes in the band.

Brief history lesson aside, another band has started playing in Omaha that can be tossed into the R.E.M. bubble. "It's not metal, it's not disco, it's just a simple melody with a simple guitar part, no soloing and the lyrics sound — well, organic. 'Hey! They're just like R.E.M.!' Well, not quite."

"The reason I like playing in this band," said Acorns drummer Jeff Heintzleman,

"is the fact that other bands will start off playing nothing but cover tunes and then slowly work their own material in. And I think that some of their originality is lost because their sound becomes watered down by playing other people's stuff."

"And it's no fun being in bands like that

Brad Thiel

Entertainment Columnist

because it's stupid to have ego struggles over other people's music," added singer Jeanette Morgan.

The Acorns are the brainchild of Gary Davis, Morgan and guitarist Alex McManus. Davis was the original percussionist for the band, playing the electric fan or an ice cube tray. The band kicked around for a while, playing a few shows at the 64 Club before Heintzleman joined the group permanently. After that Davis quit the band, and Michael Fratt joined the band on bass "with no intention of staying," Fratt said. "But it seems to have worked out."

The other band members agreed.

"What Mike's good at doing is arranging a song," said McManus.

After some grueling practices and a few more rocky shows, the Acorns decided the best thing for them to do would be to produce a cassette to help sell themselves to the local clubs. "We all decided to take a day off, and we recorded it right in our basement for about 16 hours straight," Fratt said.

"And it was amazing because you would think that we would be ready to kill one another, but we all got along fine," said Heintzleman.

"We were all pretty fried," Fratt added.

The cassette seems to have helped the Acorns get the exposure they were after. Since its release, the band has played at the Lifticket, a benefit for Creighton University's literary magazine, the Howard Street Tavern and road tripped to play shows in Lincoln on a number of occasions. (The cassette, a four-song offering, is available at local record stores for around four bucks. For the price, it's a worthy addition to your collection. My only problem with it is they've since written new songs

that are a lot better. This band is growing.)

As for a vision, the Acorns aren't looking for big money; they just want to see some original local music in this one-horse town.

It's not a question of why doesn't it happen (new music in Omaha), but rather why isn't it happening," Fratt said. "We're not on a crusade to save Omaha or anything, but it would be nice to see it happen."

Speaking of crusades — the Acorns will be playing Saturday night (that's tomorrow, folks!) at the grand opening of Creations on 6th and Pierce Streets. I know it sounds hard to find, but all you do is take 10th to Pacific, then east, then south. Admission is only \$1, and that's negotiable. Donations of toilet paper, soap, chairs, lamps, paper towels or something that you want to give to the place are also accepted — and appreciated! Other bands will be playing, but which ones haven't been confirmed yet, so I won't bother dropping names like Apathy or Elysium Crossing. This promises to be a good show — you'll want to check it out. If you haven't guessed, I'm pretty high on the Acorns. I love them. I want to marry them.

FINANCIAL AID REMINDER
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SPORTS

Lady Mavs land enthusiastic volleyball coaching duo

The UNO Lady Mav volleyball team looks to be on its feet again with a new coaching staff, but is waiting to see if all eligible team members will return.

Sophomores Brenda Baumann and Deb Eickholt, who earlier said they might transfer, decided to stay after meeting new head coach Karen Uhler. However, freshman Colleen Hurley is still undecided about playing this year.

"I really can't tell you right now," Hurley said during a phone interview Tuesday.

Women's Athletic Coordinator Connie Clausen said she expects everyone to return. Hurley, however, is still a question mark.

The whole situation wasn't as bright a few months ago, in the aftermath of Janice Kruger's February move to the University of Maryland. Kruger, in nine years at UNO, compiled a 352-96-6 record, leading the Lady Mavs to five-straight North Central Conference titles and four Final Four appearances. Kruger was also twice named Division II coach of the year.

But those players staying feel confident about their new leader.

"The coach really impressed me," said Baumann, a middle blocker and outside setter from York, Neb. Eickholt agreed.

"I liked how she's so confident," the setter from Millard North said. "She looks like she's really going to be tough. She's going to work us hard, and she's really excited and ready to go."



Uhler



Shires

Uhler and new assistant coach Rose Shires will settle in on campus in mid-July and are eager to begin, Clausen said.

"Karen is really excited about having her program succeed, and Rose is very enthusiastic about the team," Clausen said. "I'm excited about what's going to happen with volleyball."

Uhler, a former Illinois assistant coach, was chosen over 25 to 30 applicants for two reasons, Clausen said.

"She likes to win and is used to winning," she said.

One key for Uhler may be that she made an impression on the players before UNO hired her.

"Everybody really liked her a lot," senior Ragina Rule said. "We said, 'We really like her, we want her.'"

"Thank God she took it. We didn't think it would be that easy to find a great coach."

Shires left Bel Air High School in El Paso, Texas, where she was head volleyball coach and a biology instructor. Her father graduated from Omaha University in 1951.

A graduate of the University of Texas El Paso in 1985 with a bachelor of science degree in education, Shires was a four-year member of the volleyball team, three-year team captain and the team's most valuable player for two seasons.

SPORTS NOTES

Volleyball

New Head Coach Karen Uhler has signed her first recruit. Pam Largen is a 5-foot-7 setter and hitter from Creighton, Neb. She was all-class and all-state this year and was a two-time Class C-1 all-stater. Largen holds the state tournament record for most kills in a match.

Women's Basketball

Lady Mav Head Coach Cherri Mankenberg announced the signing of a recruit.

Becky Kramer averaged 33 points a game as a senior and made the Iowa all-state special mention squad and all-league in the six-girl format for Jesup High School. She is a 5-foot-11 power forward/post player.

Senior Laura J. Anderson and Mankenberg were

named college division All-Americans by the American Women's Sports Federation. Anderson finished her four-year career third on the all-time scoring list with 1658 points. She averaged 19.5 points and 9.8 rebounds a game.

Mankenberg completed her 12th season with a career record of 214-135 after a 14-10 record this year.

Women's Cross Country

Coach Tim Hendricks announced the signing of a recruit to a National Letter of Intent.

Andrea Sandfort is an all-class, all-state, three-time

state qualifier in cross country and track from Holdrege, Neb. Sandfort was fourth in state cross country in 1987.

Softball

Pitcher Beth Wedge was named to the North Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference all-academic team for 1988. Wedge, a sophomore, has a 3.09 GPA in pre-business.

Freshman center fielder Sherri Novak and pitcher/right fielder Deb Crouse were named to the first team all-region team. Novak had a .353 batting average and .986 fielding average. Crouse hit .306.

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